



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/714,785	11/15/2000	Jonathan J. Hull	15358-006110US	5217

20350 7590 09/17/2003
TOWNSEND AND TOWNSEND AND CREW, LLP
TWO EMBARCADERO CENTER
EIGHTH FLOOR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94111-3834

EXAMINER	
DODDS, HAROLD E	
ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2177
DATE MAILED: 09/17/2003
10

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/714,785	HULL ET AL. <i>SJ</i>
	Examiner Harold E. Dodds, Jr.	Art Unit 2177

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 June 2003.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.
- 4) Claim(s) 1-19, 24-30 and 32-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 25-30 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-19, 24, and 32-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 16, 18, 24, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kamise (Unexamined Japanese Patent JP 10246041A Machine Assisted Translation).

3. Kamise anticipates independent claim 1 by the following:

"...a display..." at page 15, sec. 0012.

"...one or more input devices..." at page 15, sec. 0012.

"...a storage..." at page 4, diagram item 401.

"...a processor..." at page 4, diagram item 200.

"...and one or more sensors..." at page 12, sec. 0009.

"...wherein said processor is configured to gather information provided by a visitor using at least one input device from said one or more input devices responsive to prompts provided by said processor through said display..." at page 15, sec. 0012.

"...wherein said processor is configured to substantially contemporaneously gather information about said visitor using at least one sensor from said one or more sensors..." at page 12, sec. 0009.

"...wherein said processor is configured to determine additional information about said visitor based upon said information about said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor..." at pages 14-15, sec. 0011.

"...wherein said processor is configured to communicate a portion of the information about said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor..." at page 12, sec. 0009.

"...and a portion of said additional information to a user..." at pages 14-15, sec. 0011.

"...and wherein said processor is configured to store said information about said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor into said storage..." at pages 19-20, sec. 0018.

4. As per independent claim 16, the "...gathering information about a visitor in an interactive session with an automated kiosk..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009,

the "...placing said information into a format in which said information may be stored..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018,

the "...storing said information for retrieval..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018,

the "...and based upon said gathered information about said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009,

the "...automatically obtaining additional information about said visitor from one or more sources..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011,

Art Unit: 2177

the "...and communicating at least a portion of said gathered information..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009,

and the "...and at least a portion of said additional information to a user..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011.

5. As per independent claim 24, the "...code for gathering information about a visitor in an interactive session with an automated kiosk..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009,

the "...code for placing said information into a format in which said information may be stored..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018,

the "...code for storing said information for retrieval..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018,

the "...code for obtaining, based upon said gathered information about said visitor additional information about said visitor from one or more sources..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15 sec. 0011,

the "...code for providing said additional information about said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011,

the "...and said information about said visitor gathered at said kiosk to a person interested in said information..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009, and the "...and a computer readable storage medium for holding the codes..." is taught by Kamise at page 4, diagram item 401.

6. As per claim 3, the "...an audio output device, configured to output audio information to said visitor, said audio information determined based upon said

information about said visitor gathered from said at least one input device and said at least one sensor....," is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009.

7. As per claim 4, the "...said information gathered about said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009, the "...comprises at least one of information about a name of said visitor, an organization represented by a said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018,

the "...a purpose of a visit, a date of a visit, a time of a visit, a person to be visited..." is taught by Kamise at pages 25-26, sec. 0026, and the "...and an identity of a group of visitors visiting together..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018 and pages 25-26, section 0026.

8. As per claim 6, the "...a scanner that is configured to scan at least one of a first side and a second side of a business card having printing on at least one of said first side and said second side..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011, the "...and wherein, responsive to detecting text on said at least one of said first side and said second side..." is taught by Kamise at page 23, sec. 0023, and the "...said processor processes said text in accordance with a language of said text..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018.

9. As per claim 7, the "...a microphone, wherein said microphone provides input of speech of said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011.

10. As per claim 9, the "...a speaker, wherein said information gathered about said visitor comprises information indicating a person to be visited and wherein said

Art Unit: 2177

speaker is configured to output directions to reach said person to be visited...," is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011. Please note, Kamise teaches the use of a touch panel to identify the person to be visited and a printed map to provide directions to reach this person. These are equivalent functions to functions identified in this claim.

11. As per claim 18, the "...determining a person to be visited by said visitor based upon said information gathered about said user..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011,

the "...and wherein communicating said portion of said gathered information..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009,

the "...and said portion of said additional information to said user..." is taught by Kamise at pages 14-15, sec. 0011,

and the "...comprises communicating said portions to said person to be visited..." is taught by Kamise at page 29, sec. 0030.

12. As per claim 32, the "...said user is a person that said visitor intends to visit..." is taught by Kamise at page 22, sec. 0022.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

13. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

Art Unit: 2177

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

14. Claims 2, 14, and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to the claims above, and further in view of Takasaki et al. (Japanese Patent JP403129990A only English abstract).

As per claim 2, the "...said information about said visitor is gathered using said at least one sensor..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009, but the "...without said visitor being aware of said gathering..." is not taught by Kamise.

However, Takasaki teaches the use of gathering information about a visitor without the visitor's knowledge as follows:

"...When visitor M receiving a magnetic card 2 in which essential items relating to the visit are recorded on a central acceptance inserts the card 2 into a magnetic card reader 3, the card reader reads out the recorded data and automatically call the telephone number of the visited destination through a telephone set 4. Simultaneously the visitor's face is picked up by the image pickup camera 6 without allowing the visitor M to be conscious of the image pickup, both the image data are compresses by the image compressor 7 and the compressed image data are recorded by the image data recorder 8. Consequently, the visitor's labor for checking' telephone numbers can be omitted and the visitor's data can be automatically stored..." at the Constitution section.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Takasaki with Kamise to gather information about visitors without the visitors

being aware of this gathering in order to not upset particular visitors and to prevent potential threats from disrupting the information gathering process. Some visitors might be upset about the gathering of personal information and might attempt to avoid having their image captured.

15. As per claim 14, the "...further comprising a telephone interface, configured to communicate a telephone message to a person to be visited that said visitor has arrived..." is taught by Takasaki at the Constitution section.

16. As per claim 17, the "...gathering information about said visitor at said automated kiosk comprises obtaining information from said visitor using a process of which said visitor is aware..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009 and the "...and obtaining information about said visitor using a process of which said visitor is not aware..." is taught by Takasaki at the Constitution section.

17. Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of McAlbian (U.S. Patent No. 5,845,261).

As per claim 5, the "...said display is configured to display to said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009, but the at least one of a greeting, a slide show of product images, advertising, stock values, daily cartoons, and news..." is not taught by Kamise.

However, McAlbian teaches the use of a greeting that is displayed to the visitor in Figure 5.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine McAlbian with Kamise to provide a greeting to the visitor. By displaying a greeting to the visitor, the reception machine will welcome visitors to the location. A greeting will serve as a nicety to the invention and probably make the visitors feel more welcome to the location.

18. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Kanevsky et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,334,109).

As per claim 8, the "...configured to capture an image of said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009, but the "...a video camera..." is not taught by Kamise.

However, Kanevsky teaches the use of a video camera as follows:
"...Local server 107 is connected with the following clients: card readers 101 and 104, cash register 103 and a video camera 102..." at col. 5, lines 12-15..

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Kanevsky with Kamise to provide a video camera to capture the visitor's images since a video camera can capture the images and is well known in the art.

19. Claims 10 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Motomiya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,189,783).

As per claim 10, the "...a visitor wand configured to record experiences of said visitor..." is not taught by Kamise,

Art Unit: 2177

but Motomiya teaches the use of a reader-writer wand used to record experiences of visitors as follows:

"...A numeral 13 denotes a reader-writer that radiates weak electric waves 14, through which the information is allowed to be read from or written in a park card 0..." at col. 5, lines 6-8.

"...This attraction guide function is required to record the history of the attractions the user have visited since. This is effective if the part card is used in the succeeding visits..." at col. 10, lines 3-5.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Motomiya with Kamise to use a wand to record experiences of visitors in order to use a system to display activities the user has already experienced and provide a record of full enjoyment of these experiences.

20. As per claim 33, the "...said additional information comprises information about said visitor's previous visit..." is taught by Motomiya at col. 10, lines 6-7.

21. Claims 11 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Coffin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,991,429).

As per claim 11, the "...wherein the one or more sensors include a biometric sensor configured to gather biometric information about said visitor..." is not taught by Kamise.

However, Coffin teaches the use of biometric sensors as follows:

"...Biometric techniques for determining the identity of individuals, such as in security applications, have been well known and in use for some time. To date, biometric techniques have primarily been oriented towards fingerprint analysis rather

Art Unit: 2177

than the visual recognition of facial images..." at col. 1, lines 5-9.

"...However, several aspects of the systems have not been dealt with: automatically positioning a camera or other, biosensor, enhancing identification accuracy through class sorting, and identifying individual facial features from those subjects wearing eyeglasses..." at col. 1, lines 28-32.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Coffin with Kamise to enhance the identification of visitors. The biometric system extracts particular features of the image and compares these features with other images. Through the comparison, the system will identify potential matches for the visitor's identity. The determination of the visitor's identity assists in determining who the visitor is without entering their name. It allows the system to determine people who may be using false identities. Finally, it allows the system to identify visitors who may be potential threats.

22. As per claim 13, the "...wherein said one or more sensors include a security sensor configured to provide information about potential threats..." is taught by Coffin at col. 1, lines 47-50.

23. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Bellegarda et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,502,774).

As per claim 12, the "...a handwriting tablet configured to provide a sample of handwriting of said visitor..." is not taught by Kamise.

However, Belegarda teaches the use of a tablet to obtain a sample of handwriting as follows:

Art Unit: 2177

"...The multiple input user interface is comprised of, for example, a handwriting transducer 215a, typically an electronic tablet and stylus, a speech transducer 215b, typically embodied as a microphone coupled to an analog to digital converter, and a generic transducer 215c, designated with a * to symbolize that the message recognition system 200 contemplates being capable of receiving a variety of different sources of information..." at col. 7, lines 1-8.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Bellegarda with Kamise since a sample of handwriting such as the signature of the visitor could be used to identify the visitor in order to provide another means of confirming to visitor's identity.

24. Claims 15, 19, and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Pare, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,789).

As per claim 15, the "...wherein said processor is configured to determine said additional information about said visitor using a web interface..." is not taught by Kamise.

However, Pare teaches the obtaining of additional information via the web interface as follows:

"...Individual Biometric Database (IBD) records store personal information on customers for both identification as well as authentication..." at col. 41, lines 31-33.

"...The CST consists of: a microcomputer, a BIA/Int ethernet/token ring/FDDI network interface, a database examination, and modification application..." at col. 21, lines 48-53.

Art Unit: 2177

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Pare with Kamise to provide additional biometric information in order to support the identification of the visitor. Through the network and the Internet, the machines would be capable of accessing the biometric database. By connecting to the biometric database, the system gathers information needed to identify the visitors. Storing the information across a web interface allows the system to access information that is not stored on the local database. Multiple copies of the same information do not have to be stored on each terminal, thus less storage is required at each terminal.

25. As per claim 19, the "...obtaining said additional information comprises at least one of performing a search on the Internet, searching a publicly available database..." is taught by Pare at col. 41, lines 31-33 and col. 21, lines 48-53, the "...searching a database of visitor information obtained from said automated kiosk..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018, and the "...and searching a local document database..." is taught by Pare at col. 21, lines 11-14 and col. 21, lines 41-43.

26 As per claim 34, the "...said additional information comprises information about said visitor is determined from a database accessible to said processor..." is taught by Pare at col. 41, lines 31-33 and the "...and storing information about said visitor..." is taught by Kamise at pages 19-20, sec. 0018.

27. Claim 35 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise (Unexamined Japanese Patent JP 10246041A Machine Assisted Translation) and Pare, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,764,789).

28. Kamise renders obvious independent claim 25 by the following:

“...one or more input devices...” at page 15, sec. 0012.

“...one or more sensors configured to capture information about a visitor...” at page 12, sec. 0009.

“...a data processing system...” at page 4, design item 200.

“...wherein the data processing system is configured to receive information provided by the visitor using the one or more input devices...” at page 15, sec. 0012.

“...and information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors...” at page 12, sec. 0009.

“...based upon the information provided by the visitor using the one or more input devices...” at page 15, sec. 0012

“...and the information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors...” at page 12, sec. 0009.

“...distinct from the information provided by the visitor using the one or more input devices...” at page 15, sec 0012.

“...and the information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors...” at page 12, sec. 0009.

“...to a person to be visited by the visitor...” at page 22, sec. 0022.

Kamise does not teach the use of communication interfaces and the use of additional information distinct from imformation gathered by the system's sensors and input devices.

29. However, Pare teaches teach the use of communication interfaces and the use of additional information distinct from information gathered by the system's sensors and input devices as follows:

"...and a communication interface..." at col. 21, lines 48-53.

"...wherein the data processing system is configured to determine additional information about the visitor..." at col. 41, lines 31-33.

"...the additional information..." at col. 41, lines 31-33.

"...wherein the communication interface is configured to communicate the additional information..." at col. 21, lines 48-53 and col. 41, lines 31-33.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Pare with Kamise to provide additional biometric information in order to support the identification of the visitor. Through the network and the Internet, the machines would be capable of accessing the biometric database. By connecting to the biometric database, the system gathers information needed to identify the visitors. Storing the information across a web interface allows the system to access information that is not stored on the local database. Multiple copies of the same information do not have to be stored on each terminal, thus less storage is required at each terminal.

30. Claims 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamise and Pare as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Markus et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,490,601).

As per claim 36, the "...the data processing system..." is taught by Kamise at page 4, figure item 400, the "...indicative of one or more persons visited by the visitor..." is taught by Kamise at page 15, sec. 0012, but the "...is configured to generate a web page for the visitor..." and the "...web page storing information..." are not taught by either Kamise or Pare.

However Markus teaches the generation of web pages, which are made available for users as follows:

"Many Internet Web pages are composite pages, requiring information in the form of images, text, and/or code to be pulled from several different remote Internet resources..." at col. 2, lines 1-4.

"A cookie is an identifier assigned by a Web site, whether a Web server or a server such as the privacy bank server, to a user/visitor when the user visits the Web site for the first time in a given session (the time from which a user logs onto the Web and the time he or she exits the Web by exiting the browser)..." at col. 10, lines 17-22.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to combine Markus with Kamise and Pare to provide a system the capability of the generation of web pages to present information to the visitor in order to use modern technology to produce a visitor friendly display. The use of web page technology

provides a fast and flexible means of developing a display for the visitor, which may be customized to meet the requirements of the organization or persons visited.

31. As per claim 37, the "...wherein the web page is accessible by the visitor..." is taught by Markus at col. 2, lines 1-4 and col. 10, lines 17-22.

32. As per claim 38, the "...comprising an output device configured to output information to the visitor..." is taught by Kamise at page 15, sec. 0012, the "...information output by the output device..." is taught by Kamise at page 15, sec. 0012,

the "...being customized for the visitor..." is taught by Markus at col. 19, lines 34-40 and col. 10, lines 17-22,

the "...based upon the information provided by the visitor using the one or more input devices..." is taught by Kamise at page 15, sec. 0012,

the "...information about the visitor captured by the one or more sensors..." is taught by Kamise at page 12, sec. 0009,

and the "...additional information..." is taught by Pare at col. 41, lines 31-33.

Response to Arguments

33. Applicants' arguments filed 27 June 2003 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In the first argument for independent claim 1 on page 11, paragraph 2, the Applicants state:

"Applicants submit that at least the features recited in claim 1 and described above are not anticipated by Kamise. Kamise describes an unmanned reception system that comprises a camera configured to take an image of the visitor, means for scanning a business card, a card dispenser for dispensing a card that the visitor can use at an entry gate, and means that allow a visitor to select a visit destination. Kamise teaches that the business card information, the visitor's image, and the visit destination information may

Art Unit: 2177

be stored in a database ("visitor database"). However, Kamise does not use the information gathered about the user (e.g., business card information, visitor's image, etc.) to determine additional information about the visitor. As understood, there is nothing in Kamise that teaches or suggests this additional feature of determining additional information about the visitor based upon information gathered about the user from the one or more input devices and the sensors, as recited in claim 1. Since Kamise does not teach determining the "additional information", the feature of communicating a portion of the additional information (in addition to communicating a portion of information gathered from the one or more input devices) to a user is also not taught by Kamise."

The term "additional information" is very broad. Since the Applicants have not included the collection of information from business cards in the independent claim any information obtained from business cards can be considered other information. The new independent claim uses the phrase "additional information distinct from the information provided by the visitor", which qualifies "additional information" to exclude information from business cards. The communication of the information to a user is taught in many places. For example, Kamise teaches:

"...When a visitor (visitor) does the choice indication of the visit destination on the menu screen of the unmanned reception machine 100, online connection is made with the terminal 200 of visit destinations (a part, a section, individual, etc.), by the unmanned reception machine 100 and a unmanned terminal 200, the images GD1 and GD2 of a visitor and a receptionist imaged, respectively and audio signals SD1 and SD2 are received mutually, It can talk, while a visitor and a receptionist catch mutually a sight of an opposite party (face) displayed on each screen..." at page 12, paragraph 0009.

In this phrase the receptionist is clearly identified as a user of the system, who receives information from the system.

34. In the second argument for independent claims 16 and 24 and claims 4, 6, 7, and 9 on page 12, paragraphs 1 and 2, the Applicants state:

Art Unit: 2177

"Applicants submit that independent claims 16 and 24, as amended, are not anticipated by Kamise for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 1, and others. Applicants further submit that claims 4, 6, 7, and 9 which depend from claim 1 are not anticipated by Kamise for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 1, and others. Claim 18, which depends from claim 16, is not anticipated by Kamise for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 16, and others."

Independent claims 16 and 24 contain essentially the same elements as independent claim 1. Since the response to the first argument has shown that Kamise has anticipated independent 1 and essentially no new elements have been introduced in either independent claims 16 or 24 then Kamise also anticipates independent claims 16 and 24. Likewise, since claims 4, 6, 7, and 9 depend on independent claim 1, the response to the first argument shown that Kamise has anticipated independent claim 1, and no additional arguments have been provided for any of these claims, then Kamise also anticipates claims 4, 6, 7, and 9. Kamise also anticipates claim 3.

35. In the third argument for claims 2, 5, 8, 10-15, 17, and 19 on page 12, paragraphs 4 and 5, the Applicants state:

"Applicants further submit that these features are also not taught or suggested by Takasaki et al., Herz, McAbian, Kanevsky et al., Motomiya et al, Coffin et al., Bellegarda, Pare Jr. et al., Hobbs, and Klein et al. As understood, none of the cited references mentioned above teach or suggest the features of claim 1 recited above. Accordingly, even if the cited references were combined, and there is no clear indication to do so, the combination would fail to teach or suggest the features of claim 1 described above."

Since claims 2, 5, 8, 10-15, 17, and 19 depend on independent claim 1, the response to the first argument has shown that Kamise anticipated independent claim 1, and no additional arguments have been provided for any of these claims, then the combined references of Kamise and Takasaki render obvious claims 2, 14, and 17, the combined references of Kamise and McAbian render obvious claim 5, the combined references of

Kamise and Kanevsky render obvious claim 8, the combined references of Kamise and Motomiya render obvious claim 10, the combined references of Kamise and Coffin render obvious claims 11 and 13, the combined references of Kamise and Bellegarda render obvious claim 12, and the combined references of Kamise and Pare renders obvious claims 15 and 19.

36. In the fourth argument for claims 2-15, 16-19, 24, and 32-34 on page 13, paragraph 1, the Applicants state:

"Applicants further submit that independent claims 16 and 24 are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claim 1, and others. Applicants further submit that claims 2-15 and new claims 32-34 which depend from claim 1, and claims 17-19 which depend from claim 16, are also allowable for at least a similar rationale as discussed for allowing claims 1 and 16, and others.

Independent claims 16 and 24 contain essentially the same elements as independent claim 1. Since the response to the first argument has shown that Kamise has anticipated independent 1 and essentially no new elements have been introduced in either independent claims 16 or 24 then Kamise also anticipates independent claims 16 and 24. Likewise, since claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 32 depend on independent claim 1, the response to the first argument shown that Kamise has anticipated independent claim 1, and no additional arguments have been provided for any of these claims, then Kamise also anticipates claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 32. Since claims 2, 5, 8, 10-15, 17, 19, 33, and 34 depend on independent claim 1, the response to the first argument shown that Kamise has anticipated independent claim 1, and no additional arguments have been provided for any of these claims, then the combined references of Kamise and Takasaki render obvious claims 2, 14, and 17, the combined references of Kamise and McAbian

Art Unit: 2177

render obvious claim 5, the combined references of Kamise and Kanevsky render obvious claim 8, the combined references of Kamise and Motomiya render obvious claims 10 and 33, the combined references of Kamise and Coffin render obvious claims 11 and 13, the combined references of Kamise and Bellegarda render obvious claim 12, and the combined references of Kamise and Pare renders obvious claims 15, 19, and 34. Finally, since claims 17-19 depend on independent claim 16, the responses to the first and second arguments have shown that Kamise has anticipated independent claim 16, and no additional arguments have been provided for any of these claims, then Kamise also anticipates claim 18, the combined references of Kamise and Takasaki render obvious claim 17, and the combined references of Kamise and Pare render obvious claim 19

37. In the fifth argument for claims 32-38, on page 13 paragraph 2, the Applicants state:

"Applicants have added new claims 32-38 to claim aspects of the present invention. Applicants submit that the new claims are in a condition for allowance."

Since claims 32-34 depend on independent claim 1, the response to the first argument shown that Kamise has anticipated independent claim 1, and no additional arguments have been provided for any of these claims, then Kamise also anticipates claims 32, the combined references of Kamise and Motomiya render obvious claim 33, and the combined references of Kamise and Pare renders obvious claim 34. Likewise, the combined references of Kamise and Pare render obvious independent claim 35 and the combined references of Kamise, Pare, and Markus render obvious claim 36-38.

Conclusion

38. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

39. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harold E. Dodds, Jr. whose telephone number is (703)-305-1802. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E. Breene can be reached on (703)-305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 2177

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)-305-3900.

Harold E. Dodds, Jr.

Harold E. Dodds, Jr.

Patent Examiner

September 11, 2003


GRFT & CO. INC. SON
PRINCIPAL EXAMINER